

Union! Union!

UMass Amherst RAs vote to establish nation's first undergraduate student union

by Rob Velella
Connector Editor

March 5 was "a great day for union organizing and campus organizing," according to James Shaw. "We opened the door today for RAs around the country to consider unionizing. And I think slowly but surely you're going to see RAs everywhere trying to walk through that door."

Shaw is president of the local United Auto Workers Union that helped Resident Advisors at the University of Massachusetts successfully unionize.

That's right, "successfully." After over a year of struggles, including court battles, RAs at UMass Amherst voted 138-88 to establish not only the first RA union in the country, but also the first undergraduate student union.

Late that afternoon, after the results were announced, the campus student center was packed full of RAs and supporters chanting "Union! Union!" There was hugging, cheering, applause, and tears.

But, questions now pop up over what happens next. About a month ago, university officials suggested that the RA program may be forcefully shut down if the RAs voted to unionize. The university

maintains that the union is inappropriate because the RAs are students first, not employees.

"The university is disappointed in the election results and will consider its options over the next several days," said Kay Scanlan, a spokeswoman for UMass Amherst. "Those options would include all appropriate legal and administrative steps, which could include going to court. The university feels very strongly that this is an educational program incompatible with a union."

Even so, in January, the Massachusetts Labor Relations Commission ruled that the school's 360 RAs had the legal right to unionize.

The next step, according to union organizers, is to negotiate for their first contract. Goals include higher wages and better benefits and, more importantly, more job security and a fairer judicial system for reviewing RAs accused of breaking the rules.

This may prove difficult. Acting Chancellor Marcellette Williams has already indicated in a letter that the university administration simply will not bargain with a union because it may clash



Amherst RA's celebrate the results of their vote to unionize last week.

Photo courtesy of rueters.com

with core administrative stances.

Dissent isn't coming only from administrators, however. Eighty-eight resident advisors voted against the union, and many did not vote at all. Many are concerned about the mandatory union fee — about two percent of their wages. Also, some RAs worry that the union will

affect their relationship with the administration, making it more adversarial.

Many RAs simply wish it never had to come this far. Jen Mehmed, one of the RAs who voted against the union, said, "Our voices could have been heard if we tried hard enough."



Photo by Alexandria Tobias
Geoffrey Beckwith, above, spoke on campus recently.

Politics, anyone?

by Alexandria Tobias
Connector Contributor

What is your view about Jane Swift's job as governor? 43-year old Geoffrey Beckwith, a former member of the House of Representatives and a UMass Lowell and Boston College graduate, will be glad to tell you what he thinks about her and some other local politicians.

Beckwith served in the House of Representatives from 1985-1991, but he currently is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association. Beckwith got out of politics because he says that "non-profit is a safe way to go."

Beckwith gave some good advice for anyone who is an aspiring politician. First, he said, "focus on the moment - don't be self-centered."

His next piece of advice was, "Don't pre-resume write," meaning don't say ahead of time that you want to become elected to this posi-

tion, and then a higher one and so on. Instead, he recommends setting small goals and attaining those is the best way to get ahead in the political arena. If you achieve your small goals then move on to bigger and better things, if you choose.

Beckwith also touched upon what different generations do with their money. He says that "Baby Boomers" invest in silly things such as horses. He says there are more horses now, then there was 100 years ago, when horses were used for most people's everyday activities. According to him, horses are hardly even ridden these days; they are only used for show. He also said that most college students spend more time volunteering and thinking about the well-being of others than the so-called Generation X.

Beckwith came to UML as a political science major and is now the executive director of the Mass. Municipal Association.

Retirement package attracts UML faculty

by Chris Chiodo
Connector Contributor

It is expected that, by June 15, more than 10 percent of UMass Lowell's faculty and staff will take advantage of early retirement programs.

On Jan. 1, in an effort to reduce future spending, the state passed legislation encouraging the early retirement of faculty and staff across the entire University of Massachusetts system. The Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP) and the Valued Employee Retirement Bonus (VERB) are designed to reduce payroll while minimizing layoffs.

At UMass Lowell, 107 people have applied for ERIP, and it is estimated that an additional 20 people will retire under VERB. John Giarusso, Director of Human Resources, estimates that about 90 percent of applicants will actually retire. UMass will be able to replace 1 out of 5.

While the programs may be beneficial to the state and employees taking advantage of them, Giarusso expressed that he is saddened by the University losing "real people" with "hundreds and hundreds of years of experience" combined. He says, "the impact to the University is that there is a lot of history that we are losing, and that takes time get built back up again."

See RETIREMENT, cont'd on page 3.

Weather Forecast for the Lowell Area, March 12-15

Sr. Student Meteorologists: Kristen Kerouac and Shaun O'Brien

Tuesday:

Morning sun, followed by increasing clouds with showers developing later in the day. Highs in the mid 40's. Brief, scattered showers overnight, with lows in the low 30's.

Wednesday:

Variably cloudy, with a chance of showers in the afternoon. Breezy. Highs in the upper 40's to lower 50's. Any lingering showers tapering off overnight. Lows in the low 30's.

Thursday:

Sunny and mild, clouds thickening late in the day. Highs in the lower 50's. Mostly cloudy overnight. Lows in the mid to upper 30's.

Friday:

Intervals of sunshine, otherwise mainly cloudy. Daytime highs in the lower 50's. The chance of some light showers can't be ruled out for the afternoon into the evening. Lows in the upper 30's.

This forecast is brought to you by the students of the UMass Lowell Weather Center. For weather updates throughout the week, or to learn more about our program, visit <http://storm.uml.edu>. When away from a computer, hear our regularly updated forecast on our weather hotline at ext. 3999.

From the Connector Morgue

(UML History comes out of the closet)

South Parking Problems Continue
January 28, 1993

by Steve Athanas
Connector Staff

It's generally accepted around campus that parking is hard to come by, especially those coveted few spots that place us several feet closer to our ultimate destination. However, compared to only a few years ago, the parking system here at UML is significantly more advanced than it has been.

In the beginning of 1993, the parking situation on South Campus was abysmal. In the summer of 1992, the city of Lowell closed a dirt lot across from Durgin Hall, which many students used for parking, creating a serious deficiency in available spaces. The University responded by increasing shuttle

bus service from the research parking lots to South Campus, and in October of 1992, they initiated a program to lease additional parking spaces for South Campus majors.

Because UMass Lowell is a public school, a lease request must be submitted through the Massachusetts Division of Capital Planning and Operations (DCPO). After such a request is processed through that office, the university must advertise the lease request for a minimum of three weeks, and open up the request to a bidding process, regardless if there is already a potential leaser.

The proposal that UML presented to DCPO had several stipulations, such as the lot was required to hold between 50 and



350 cars, be within a mile of the University, and be a well-lit, secure area. In the fall semester of 1992 one of the lots the University was eyeing, the Vulkor Lot on Broadway Street allowed students to park in their precious spaces, at rate of only \$2.00 per day.

So, next time you're running a few minutes late for class and you have to park 'out in left field,' take a step back and relax. At least it's free.

Budget cuts may equal faculty cuts

by Jeff Todd
Connector Staff

Sensing a need to clear the air regarding cuts in the size of faculty, UMass Lowell Chancellor William Hogan held two open forums for faculty and staff last Wednesday - one in Cumnock Auditorium and another in O'Leary 222.

The Chancellor presented information about state funding for higher education, local and state retirement packages, the impending reductions in faculty, and the efforts of the university to raise operating funds from non-state, non-student sources.

Hogan reviewed the cuts in state funding for higher education, but it was 4.2% in the last fiscal year, and 4.0% in this fiscal year. "It's not hard to predict where the trend line is heading," according to Hogan.

In an effort to reduce the number of state employees, faculty members meeting certain criteria have been offered "golden parachute" offers to retire early.

In addition, the campus has offered a locally based, early retirement offer. Twenty faculty members are expected to take advantage of this offer, all of whom will be replaced. In total,

by the end of this year, 70 faculty members are expected to retire while only 30 will be replaced.

While a cut of over ten percent of the faculty seems to be alarming, the chancellor assured the gatherings that the university had been on track to reduce the faculty by this number by the fall of 2004. "We are getting there in one large step instead of by the gradual slope we had expected."

At the South Campus meeting, Mary Connelly, Director of Student Activities and Commuter Services, expressed students' concern that classes would be cut which student need to graduate. Hogan said that no classes would be cut. Answering another questions, the chancellor stated that tuition would not be increased for the 2002-2003 year, and that he did not know if class sizes for general education classes would be able to be kept as low as they currently are.

The chancellor expressed that he is not in a rush to fill the vacant position with "warm bodies." He stated that the recent quality of faculty applications have been "remarkable" and that departments "should not lower the bar" in order to fill positions quickly.

Nursing students help wash hands

by Dr. Patricia Ottani
Nursing Professor

During the month of February, junior student nurses implemented a hand-washing program for children enrolled in the Tewksbury school system's after school programs. In collaboration with the Merrimack Valley Task Force on Nursing, and under the direction of Dr. Patricia Ottani, assistant professor of nursing, approximately 200 children received information regarding proper hand-washing

techniques.

The purpose of the program was twofold: first, to introduce nursing to an earlier age group than previously targeted due to concerns of the present nursing shortage, and second, to insure that youngsters were washing their hands appropriately and preventing transmission of pathogens through this most common route. A video, hand-washing practice, and fun activities resulted in a valuable learning experience for all involved.

Graduate School Open House

Courtesy of UMass Lowell Graduate School

Check out the Help Wanted section of the NY Times or the Boston Globe and you will see ads with phrases like, "master's preferred", "master's required", and "doctorate preferred". The good companies offering good jobs—career jobs — want advanced degrees. To help students gain a competitive advantage when beginning their job search, the Graduate School at UMass Lowell offers the Bachelor's-Master's Program. This program provides a unique opportunity to combine a bachelor's degree with a graduate program and obtain a master's degree following just one additional year of study.

Third year students and seniors with a grade point average of 3.0 or better are eligible to apply. This excellent academic record allows you to apply to the Graduate School without having to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). (Note Exception: Graduate School of Education

requires the GRE.) Also, the Graduate School application fee is waived for this program.

By participating in this program, you will get a head start toward your master's degree during your senior year, saving tuition costs as well. After earning a bachelor's degree, one additional year of study will result in a master's degree. (Contact individual academic departments for details. Restrictions apply.) During this one year, you are eligible to apply for teaching or research assistantships which can help pay for your graduate degree.

This program is limited to participating academic departments. Students are invited to discuss program details on Wednesday, Mar. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Coburn Hall, rm. 205. Dr. Jerome Hojnacki, Dean of the Graduate School, will be present along with participating Department Graduate Coordinators and faculty to explain how to earn two degrees in five years at UMass Lowell. Refreshments will be available.

Superman vs. Kryptonite

by Rob Vellella
Connector Editor

Superman's only weakness is now available in stores everywhere — and DC Comics isn't happy about it.

Higher-ups at Manhattan-based DC, a small part of AOL-Time Warner, weren't mild-mannered in responding to a new hair-care product produced by Wella Corp. called Kryptonite. The glowing green styling gel took the name based on the fictitious radioactive rock as of February. When DC Comics, found out, they filed a lawsuit faster than a speeding bullet.

The suit seeks unspecified damages and calls for the

California-based Wella Corp. to stop producing the product. Because the gel's bottle appeared with a "TM" symbol next to the name "Kryptonite," DC fears the public will think it is associated with the Superman character. Their claim is that the hair-care company is using this association to their advantage.

Additionally, the product's packaging claims it has "the strongest hold." DC officials said the label is "usurping... the commercial magnetism of Superman."

The green-glowing kryptonite, which was first introduced to the world in a 1943 radio episode, is the only object that weakens the Man of Steel.

DC Comics believes these bits of elements from Superman's home planet Krypton are too deeply established to the public, and have become an emblem in the Superman legend, almost as well-recognized as the "S" logo on his chest or the red underoos he wears outside his tights.

"While Superman is virtually invulnerable and can withstand such things as a hail of bullets, he is helpless in the face of kryptonite radiation," according to the lawsuit.



Images courtesy of supermanhomepage.com
Superman takes his heroics to court against his weakness: Kryptonite.

Have a great Spring Break!

ConnectorR March 12th Edition

News	1-2	6-7	Arts & Ent'ment
Weather	1	8-9	Comic Vortex
Campus Calendar	3	10	Announcements
Staff Box/Policy	4	10	Classifieds
Opinions/Letters	4-5	11-12	Sports

To add your event here, e-mail connector@uml.edu, attn: Calendar Editor

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		12 Finance Committee Meeting McGauvran 334 @ 4:00 PM Connector Meeting Fox 426 @6:00 PM	13 Health Fair in Weed Hall 9 AM - 1:30 PM AA Meeting McGauvran 410 @ 12 PM SGA Meeting McGauvran 410 @ 5PM	14 STEVE GROSSMAN (CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR) @ 11AM IN COBURN 109 Engineering Job Fair Cumnock Aud. @ 12:30PM GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MTG @ 4:00 IN MCGAUVRAN 334	15 SPRING BREAK BEGINS! <i>Residence Halls close at 6PM</i>	16 <i>Inclement Weather?</i> Call the cancellation hotline to see if classes are still being held! x-2121
		Mullholland Drive Mahoney Hall / Fox MPR @8PM				

~ SPRING BREAK! MARCH 17 - 23 ~

24 Wind Ensemble Concert @ 7:30PM in Durgin Concert Hall Protestant Service Fox 301, 6 PM Catholic Center 8 PM Mass Fox 601	25 Spectrum Meeting @ 3:30 PM call x- 5078 SGA Finance Committee Mtg. 4:00 PM in McGauvran 334	26 CONNECTOR MEETING @ 6:00 IN FOX 426 RHA MEETING @7:30 IN FOX 501	27 HISTORY CLUB MEETING @ 3:15 IN COBURN 304 SGA Meeting @ 5:00PM in McGauvran 410	28 Softball vs. Saint Rose @ 1:00 at the South field Attn Clubs and Organizations: Get in your pics for the end of the year slideshow! Bring them to Student Activities ASAP!	29 DO YOU HATE THIS CALENDAR? JOIN THE CONNECTOR AND BECOME OUR NEW CALENDAR EDITOR!	30 Baseball vs. St. Rose @ 1:00 pm at LeLacheur park First Home Game of the Season! <i>Support your team!</i>
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RETIREMENT, from page 1.

Under ERIP, an employee's years of service adds to their percentage, up to 80 percent of their current salary. In effect, those taking advantage of the plan will be able to retire three years earlier than they would have been able to do otherwise.

Across the UMass system a total of 808 people have applied for ERIP. UMass Amherst leads the way with 438 applicants.

VERB is designed for

employees who are already eligible to receive 75 to 80 percent of their retirement benefits. Those taking advantage of VERB will receive a one-time cash bonus in addition to their pension, relative to their years of service.

The programs are in addition to the more than \$28 million recently cut by the state. The state will not see savings from the program until the next fiscal year.

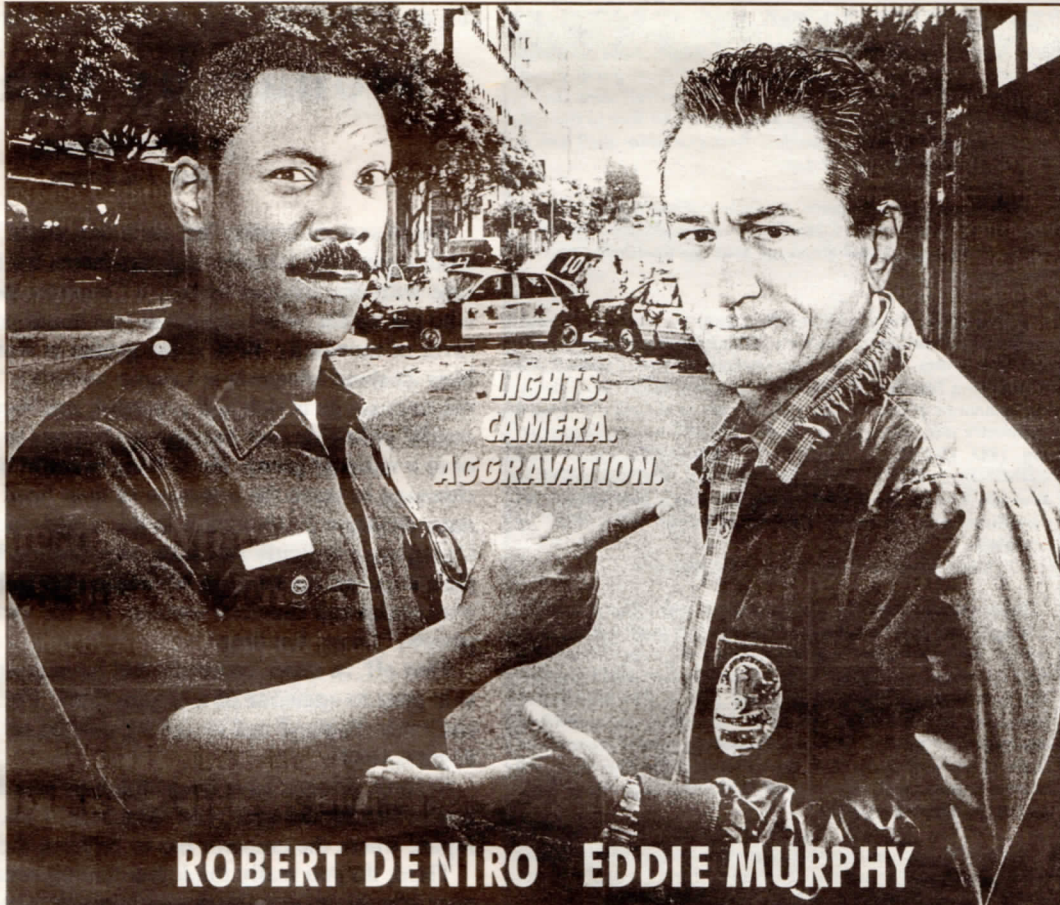


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IN THEATERS MARCH 15

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General: The *Connector* is a non-profit student public forum serving the University of Massachusetts Lowell community. The paper is published weekly and distributed free to the university community every Tuesday. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All UMass Lowell students, regardless of major, are invited to join the *Connector* staff. Interested students should contact an editor or manager listed above, or visit the *Connector* Office in Fox Suite 426.

Advertising: The *Connector* advertisements reach an estimated 14,000 UMass Lowell students--their friends and families. To tap this group of future high-income earners, contact our Advertising Manager at 934-5009. Advertisements discriminating against race, gender, age, religion, physical ability, or sexual preference will not be accepted. **DEADLINE for ALL advertising (TO INCLUDE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS and ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OF THE UNIVERSITY) is Tuesday, 12 p.m. for the following Tuesday's publication. No exceptions will be made. Late submissions WILL NOT be accepted.**

Classified advertisements are free for students.

Editorial: Letters to the editors should be less than 500 words in length and may be submitted via campus mail, e-mail, or in person. All letters must bear the author's name, relationship to the University and student body, phone number, and signature. The author may request to have any part of this information withheld, if published. Opinions expressed in individual columns, the Opinions Section, advertising, and/or features are those of the author, NOT of the *Connector*. The Opinions and Letters section will not be edited in any way, to include spelling/grammar mistakes.

Submission: All article-based submissions (to include Letters to the Editors and Opinions) deadline is Thursday at 5 p.m. for the following Tuesday's publication. Submissions may be dropped off at the *Connector* office on a 3.5" floppy disk. Submissions must be written in a MS Word (6.0) format for Mac. ** Tables, templates, and graphics will not be accepted on disk with text submission. Accompanying visuals must be submitted in hard copy. Submissions may also be sent via e-mail to Connector@uml.edu.

All press releases, articles, advertisements, and photographs submitted become the property of the *Connector* and will not be returned unless requested in advance. The *Connector* reserves the right to edit or refuse all submissions for copy, content, and length.

The *Connector* will make every effort to prevent inaccuracy, but assumes no responsibility for errors in advertisements or columns. The *Connector* will reprint without charge, that part which is incorrect. Credit for errors are made only for first insertion.

The *Connector* is located in Suite 426 of the North Campus Student Union Building (Fox Hall), 100 Pawtucket Street, Lowell, MA 01854. Tel: (978) 934-5009. Fax: (978) 934-3031. E-mail: Connector@uml.edu

OPINIONS & LETTERS

Remember... Six months ago

by Melissa Cheliras

Campus Minister, Abundant Life Christian Fellowship

Six months ago I wrote a letter entitled "Remember." It was a time when many of us were confused, angry, and looking for hope and faith. There were many questions that I had. Sept 11th was six months ago, there has been healing, and life has gone on. But questions still remain. There are still emotions and feelings that I am not quite sure of. In response to that Abundant Life Christian Fellowship is co sponsoring a program with Donahue Hall: "Where was God when..." It is going to be held March 12, tonight, at 8 p.m. in the Fox MPR. There will be a speaker that will address the issue of God, faith, and suffering and a chance to ask questions and dialogue. It will be an open honest forum for any person. I hope that it will be a

chance for me personally and for you to continue to deal with feelings, to heal, and to grow. That as we remember out of the ashes will grow a flower of life and hope.

E-Mail Stations

by Josh Nelson

UML Student

I've been at this school for two years now, one year as a resident and this year as a commuter. I've read articles in your paper about how commuters get hosed, and I would have to agree. I want to know why on South, compared to North the student center computers to check your email on are never working. When this semester first started the south campus student center had all five computers working... within weeks only two have survived and they are slowly slipping (freezing while performing normal operations, good old Microsoft.) It's a real pain to have to sit around and wait for some students to get off the computers, they use them like they own them, (checking out porn sites, talking with friends over AIM, installing software, etc.) For the money that I give to this institution I would expect for the small things to be handled a little better.

Monarchy fun time

by Robert Moreau

UML Freshman

Being serious is okay but once in a while it's good to laugh a bit, especially at really bad arguments for things. Such is the case with one Jacques Monet, a Canadian monarchist historian who put up the worst argument you could possibly ever find in favor of monarchy. Here is the genius at work (courtesy of the New Zealand Monarchist League website): "[A] king is a king, not because he is rich and powerful, not because he is a successful politician, not because he belongs to a particular creed or to a national group. He is King because he is born. And in choosing to leave the selection of their head of state to this most common denominator in the world- the accident of birth- Canadians implicitly proclaim their faith in human equality; their hope for the triumph of nature over political manoeuvre, over social and financial interest; for the victory of the human person." Okay, fun time!

First off, in many countries that have monarchies, the king-ship goes to someone of a certain faith. For example, you can't rule England and be (or be married to) a Catholic (Bill of Rights, 1688).

Second, thrones have been stolen by treachery or victory in battle. Did Monet ever read "Macbeth"? The sole exception is Japan, where the emperor has to be from the "Sun Line" clan.

Third, do you really think that having someone else lord it over you due to your birth proclaims human equality? For example, in Sudan and Mauritania, where slavery is still practiced, children of slave women automatically become slaves. According to Monet, this would theoretically also proclaim a "victory of the human person." And we all know slavery is bad, in all its forms. I can think of a much better "victory of the human person:" we are all born fully equal and who leads us is our decision to make. How about working towards that here in the U.S.A. by dumping the Electoral College, making an efficient nation-wide voting system, and passing a nation-wide Clean Elections law? The 2000 Presidential election was anything but democratic, as you well know.

I don't know about you, though, but Monet makes monarchy look really good! Let's go get one!

The opinions expressed on the Opinions/Letters section do not necessarily represent the views of the *Connector* or its staff; rather, they reflect solely upon the author.

Alive and Well: "Memoir Series"

by Mike Reidy

Connector Columnist

Memoirs of an Amnesiac

There was something I was supposed to do today, but I forget what it was. That seems to happen a lot lately. What did he just say? Man, I need to pay more attention. Alright, now where's the Broadway menu?

If I want to order some food, I'll have to stop at the ATM machine. I hate it when its cold, the car takes so long to warm up. Where am I? Oh yeah, I'm driving to the ATM. That was scary. I'll just pop in some music. Damn. Left the CDs in my room. Here we are. Twenty dollars should be enough. Let's go.

One day later...

Ah, Guitar Center: how I love you so. Time for some lunch. I'll just get some more money out of the ATM. Taking out the wallet. Opening the wallet. Um... where's my credit card? Cold sweat. Must have left it in the machine yesterday. Nice job.

Where am I? Oh yeah, I'm standing here, and I lost my credit card. This has to be a dream. Why do I keep forgetting things and losing things?

What was I writing again?

A bit of girl insight Story Time

by Susan Kohnle

Connector Columnist

Some one suggested to me that my column might benefit if I include more anecdotes about people I know or funny things that may happen through out the week. I decided that I would be best to start with a story about me. Then I thought it would be best to start with a story about this column and me; so I decided to write about why I began this column.

Last spring semester I picked up the *Connector's* first edition of the semester, I didn't work nor was I involved in any way with the *Connector*. I began reading some of the news but I quickly moved on to other sections. I started reading a column entitled Slappy Says. At first he seemed to be writing off the cuff and usually that doesn't interest me, but his topic had me interested. He had wrote a column about the desensitization of society; a valid point. However, his argument is outrageous, disgusting bullshit. His argument states: "Twisted bitch is on trial and uses as a defense the fact that her father molested her. I guess I should have pity for her but I don't. The fact that some chick was 'dirty dancing' daddy just doesn't have the punch it once did."

Now not only does this ignorance piss me off, but I am a survivor of sexual assault and as an individual I took offense. I wrote an editorial arguing that since there are such a high percentage of survivors of sexual assault, and the newspaper's main target is to provide an integral forum for news and opinion for the reader's on this campus, perhaps a columnist with such ignorance should not write for an institution dedicated to education. I swore to myself I was going to have a column, his slot in fact, and I decided I was going to make a difference with the *Connector*.

I got someone's attention with my editorial. And when Rob, our new editor in chief, took over he asked me to join the staff. I joined the staff after that semester. I applied for my column at my first opportunity.

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the **Hawk** **Talk**line

The *Connector's* anonymous survey asking members of the University for their opinions.

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Last Week's Results:

Do you like where your money is going?

"I'm disappointed at where our money is going i think it's ridiculous that they're hiking up our tuition. I prefer an affordable education over green grass."

"I know that my money is going towards something, and I honestly don't see where it's really going towards. Raising tuition doesn't make sense to me."

"I can't believe that the school is spending tens of thousands of dollars on a sign to go outside Fox Hall. This is atrocious when the Health Department is low on faculty."

This Week's

Question:

How's your Spring Break?

What'd you do? Go anywhere?

It's available 24 hours a day, but get those responses in by no later than **Next Friday at 5 PM.**

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A & E

Arts and Entertainment

Oscar the Grouch? Part 1

by Sharyn Emery
Connector Contributor

Or maybe I should say Grinch. This past year was certainly not lacking in fine films, and the list of nominees for the 74th Annual Academy Awards reflects much of what were Hollywood's best and brightest offerings. Still, one cannot help but feel puzzled at what Oscar has left out this year. But perhaps it's really no surprise at all—Oscar has followed its trend of bestowing nominations upon the lushest epics while often ignoring films that made a real impact on audiences. Read on:

Best Picture—Naturally, *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* leads the pack. A total of 13 nominations overall and near-universal praise from critics and filmgoers bodes well for the tale of Middle Earth. Close on its heels is *Moulin Rouge*, a polarizing offering from the Aussie auteur Baz Luhrman. All flashy costumes and clever musical numbers, *Moulin Rouge* nonetheless failed to net a nomination for Luhrman, its director. *A Beautiful Mind*, the Russell Crowe vehicle about real-life mathematician John Nash, scored a nomination despite being criticized for playing loose with the facts of Nash's life. Rounding out the list are *Gosford Park* and *In the Bedroom*, two small films critics heaped praise on, both for strong acting and powerful scripts.

What's missing? *The Royal Tenenbaums*, perhaps—or more glaringly, *Memento*, the fiercely original time-bend-

ing flick that critics loved and audiences went to see again and again.

Best Director—Director nominations tend to follow Best Picture nominations, but every so often, a few directors whose films aren't nominated sneak in. To wit: *Mulholland Drive*'s David Lynch, (the Academy's stab at being edgy) and Ridley Scott, whose *Black Hawk Down* was a sheer feat of organization and vision. The rest of the list includes Ron Howard (*A Beautiful Mind*), Robert Altman (*Gosford Park*) and Peter Jackson (*The Lord of the Rings*). Howard and Altman are renowned for their work with actors, but it is Jackson's work in bringing the beloved Tolkien tale to the screen with almost no backlash from Hobbit-philies that is most likely to bring home the golden guy. Who's Missing? Again, *Memento*'s director Christopher Nolan, and the aforementioned Baz Luhrman, who conceived virtually every aspect of *Moulin Rouge* and was still shut out.

Best Actor—Oscar likes 'em crazy, flamboyant or disabled, and this year's crop is no exception. For crazy, there's Russell Crowe as John Nash, who was not actually crazy, but suffered from schizophrenia (but hey, that's crazy enough for the Academy). For flamboyance, there's Will Smith as Ali and Denzel Washington as a cop-gone-bad in *Training Day*. *Disabled* is handled by Sean Penn who portrays a mentally challenged Starbucks partner in *I Am Sam*. The fifth slot is filled by Brit Tom Wilkinson (you may remember him from

The Full Monty) for his understated work in *In the Bedroom*.

Who's Missing? It's hard to quibble with this list of actors—heck, two of them already have Oscars (Crowe and Washington). But Gene Hackman's work in *The Royal Tenenbaums* won him several Critics' Circle awards and Ewan MacGregor was the soul of *Moulin Rouge*.

Best Actress—For the ladies, Oscar loves 'em tortured. Mentally, spiritually, physically—just tortured. And so we have this year a death-row inmate's wife (Halle Berry—*Monster's Ball*), a writer with Alzheimer's Disease (Judi Dench—*Iris*), a dying showgirl (Nicole Kidman—*Moulin Rouge*) a bereaved mother (Sissy Spacek—*In the Bedroom*) and a slightly neurotic single gal (Renee Zellweger—*Bridget Jones's Diary*). These five have all the tortured bases covered.

Who's Missing? 2001 wasn't the greatest year for women's roles, but Renee Zellweger's nomination is a sweet surprise—both because of her *Nurse Betty* snub and the fact that Oscar rarely recognizes comedic roles.

So where should your bets go? It's always a tough call, as there's usually one surprise per Oscar night (albeit usually

in the Supporting Categories). But let's play it quite safe and say that *The Lord of the Rings*, Peter Jackson, Russell Crowe and Sissy Spacek should all be very happy come March 24. Look next week for a breakdown of the Supporting and Screenplay Categories.

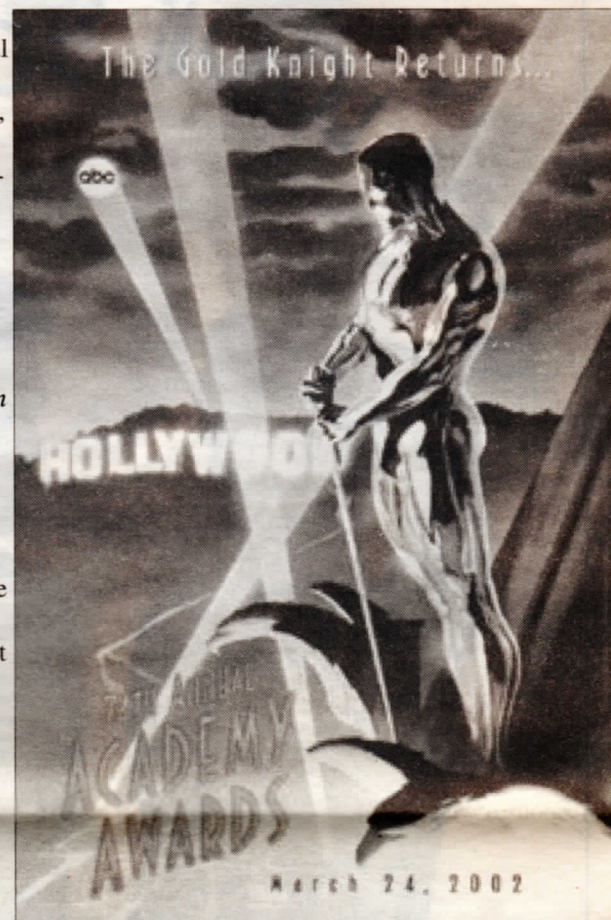


Image courtesy of www.oscar.com

The Academy Awards picked its usual cast of epic films to nominate, leaving out some of the year's best films.

Kathy Marmor and Student Sculpture

Robert Harris Blatt
Connector Editor

Jaques Marie Lacan once said, "This is my body, the hysterical symptom reveals the structure of a language and is deciphered like an inscription." This was the quote from the French psychoanalyst that inspired Kathy Marmor's exhibit *Screen Memories*, one part of an installation currently on display until April 3rd in the University Gallery. The other, *The Dynamics of Forgetting*,

uses the act of forgetting as a construct of identity. Both galleries explore the paradoxes of identity. In this unique gallery, Marmor uses Plexiglas panels and slide projectors to express the installations of multi-media and performance art.

The Dynamics of Forgetting: Screen Memories, explores the impact of an emotional desire. She applies this to the new wave of digital communication that has not only become a language of its own, but has played its part on body lan-

guage and the perception of the human body. In the exhibit, the screens represent computer screens, which have become a metaphor for the subconscious mind. The reflections of these images refer to the processes of remembering and forgetting. This also goes back to Lacan's *Objet*, where *Objet* is defined as the source of sex drives and is equated with the body's orifices. Marmor redefines *Objet* as the parts of the body that produce speech in order to investigate Lacan's contention

that the success of language reveals the failure of sexual relations.

The gallery was set up in conjunction with Women's Month, the UMass Lowell Art Department and the College of Arts and Sciences. Marmor received her undergraduate degree in Intermedia and Sculpture at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax. She's currently the Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Vermont in Burlington.

Currently in the Dugan Gallery is the *Student Sculpture 2002* exhibit, which is curated by Art Department Chairperson Professor Jim Coates. A variety of sculptural media will be on display, including metal, plaster, found objects, and wood. The Dugan Gallery is located in the bottom floor of Dugan Hall; the University Gallery resides in the first floor of McGauvran

Some information taken from University Gallery press releases.



Photos courtesy of the University Gallery

At right, an image from the truly unique installation of Kathy Marmor's 'The Dynamics of Forgetting: Screen Memories' currently in the University Gallery, above, 'Untitled' by Alyshia Lien in mixed media from last year's 'Student Sculpture' Exhibit. 'Student Sculpture 2002' is currently on display in the Dugan Gallery.



Live from: NO ONES KIND, UP AGAINST THE STEM, AND INSPECTED BY 48



above photo by Rosalind Wyman, others by Kevin Gentile

From left to right: Ryan, Matt and Andy of Inspected by 48, Ryan of Up Against the Stem, and third place Battle of the Bands winners Jon and Dan and Jon of No One's Kind



Metal with a latin feel

Ill Nino mixes modern metal with a latin feel to make a unique sound

by Rebecca Sosvielle
Connector Contributor

Tedious is the best description of time spent listening to Ill Nino's premiere release "Revolution Revolution". If you overlook their ready-made montage of template-esque aggressive percussion and the occasional "Hey I can be a sensitive guy" melodic tracks what you have at the core of this album is still...tedium. After scanning through about four tracks one begins to realize that each song sounds virtually the same. Thus one might wonder (considering that in some forums they are receiving positive response) what are Ill Nino's selling points - if any?

Ill Nino, signed to the Roadrunner label, has had the initiative to define their own genre: Flamenco Metal. The New Jersey sextet is proud of it's primarily South American roots. The guitar melodies are peppered with riffs that are clearly of a latin american influ-

ence but honey, this ain't no Santana. Ill Nino's lyrics are mostly sung in English with the occasional Spanish phrase to remind us that this is not simply your very average metal band. Altogether kudos is to be given for their effort in fronting this new genre however the album can only be described, in spite

of it's unique ethnicity, as predictable and formulaic.

For those who are interested in this band, they will be hitting the Paul Tsongas Arena over Spring Break with Coal Chamber and Drowning Pool as part of the Jagermeister Music Tour on Friday, March 22nd.



image courtesy of Road Runner Records

Ill Nino, as seen above, have adopted their own latin feel into today's version of Loud Rock and Heavy Metal. they are hitting the Tsongas Arena with Drowning Pool, Coal Chamber a week from Friday.

Billboard and top grossing movie charts were omitted this week due to space constraints

Internet Connection

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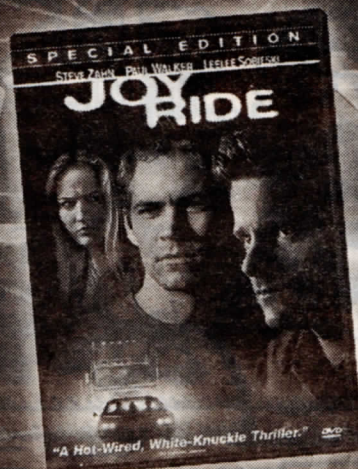
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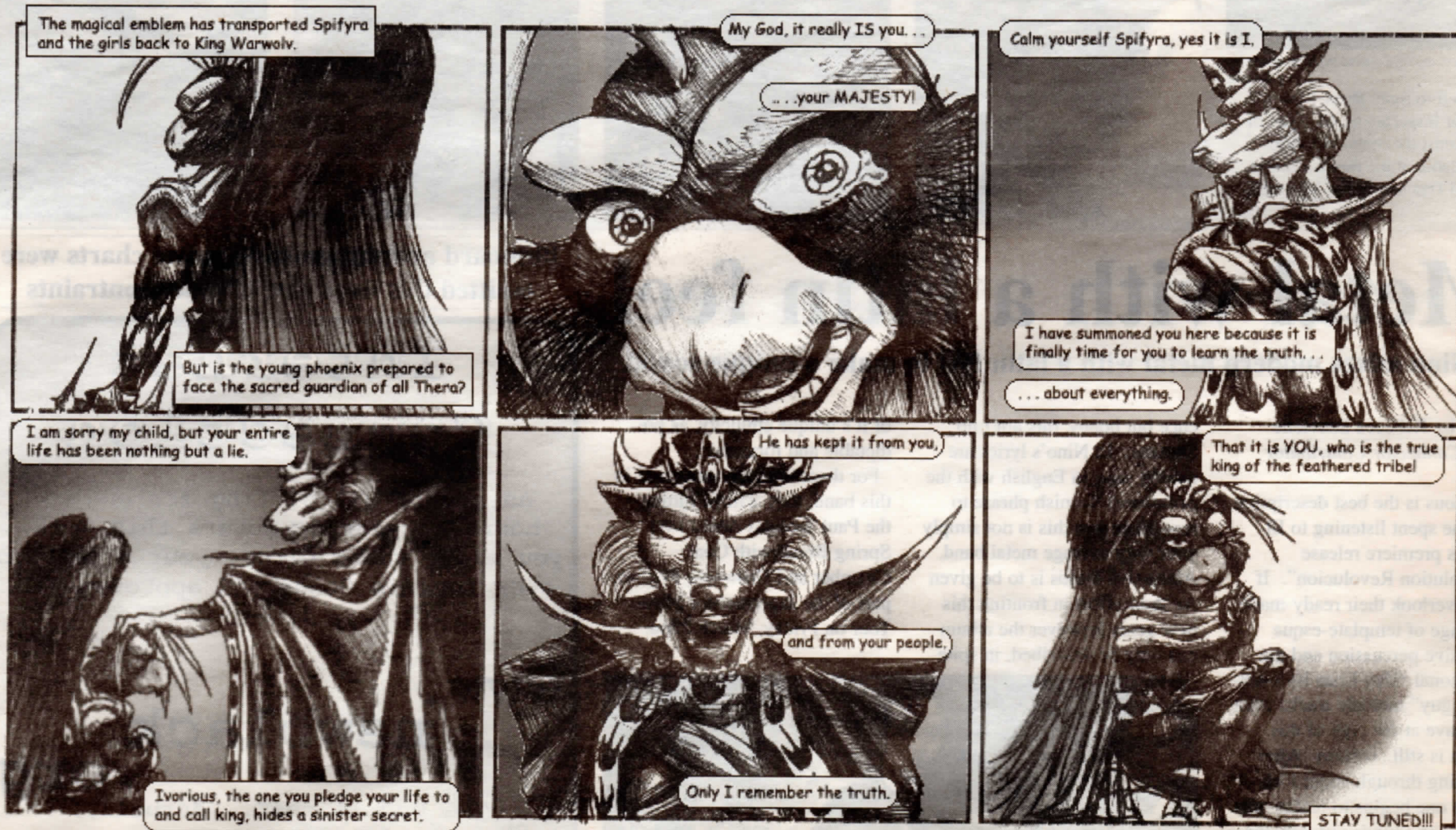
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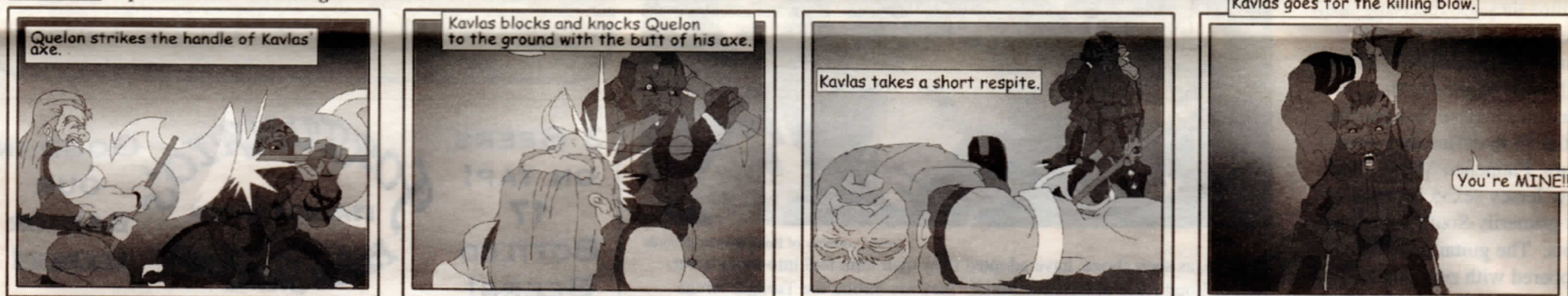
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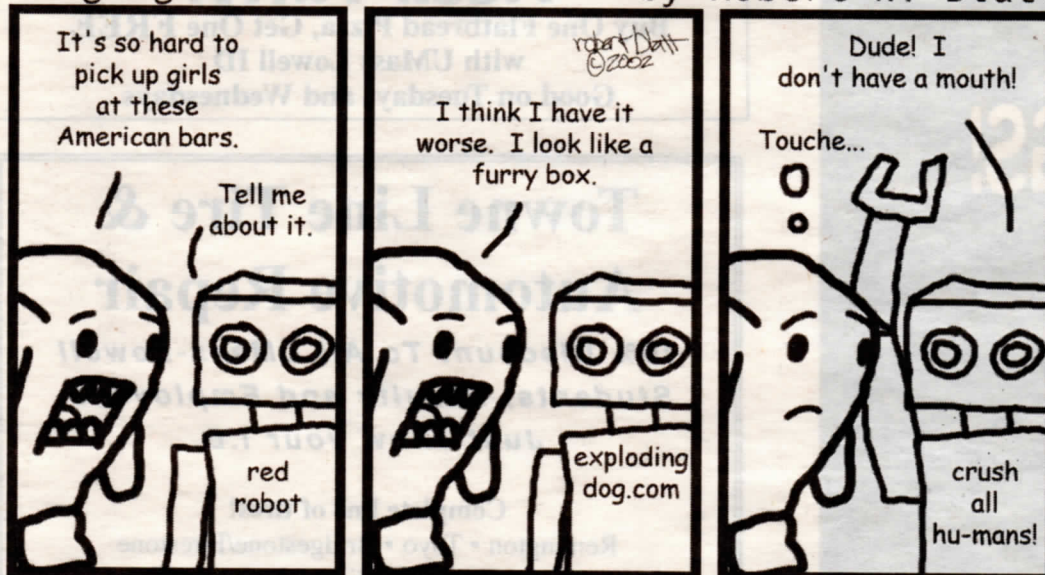
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Brendan Fayle class of "2003"

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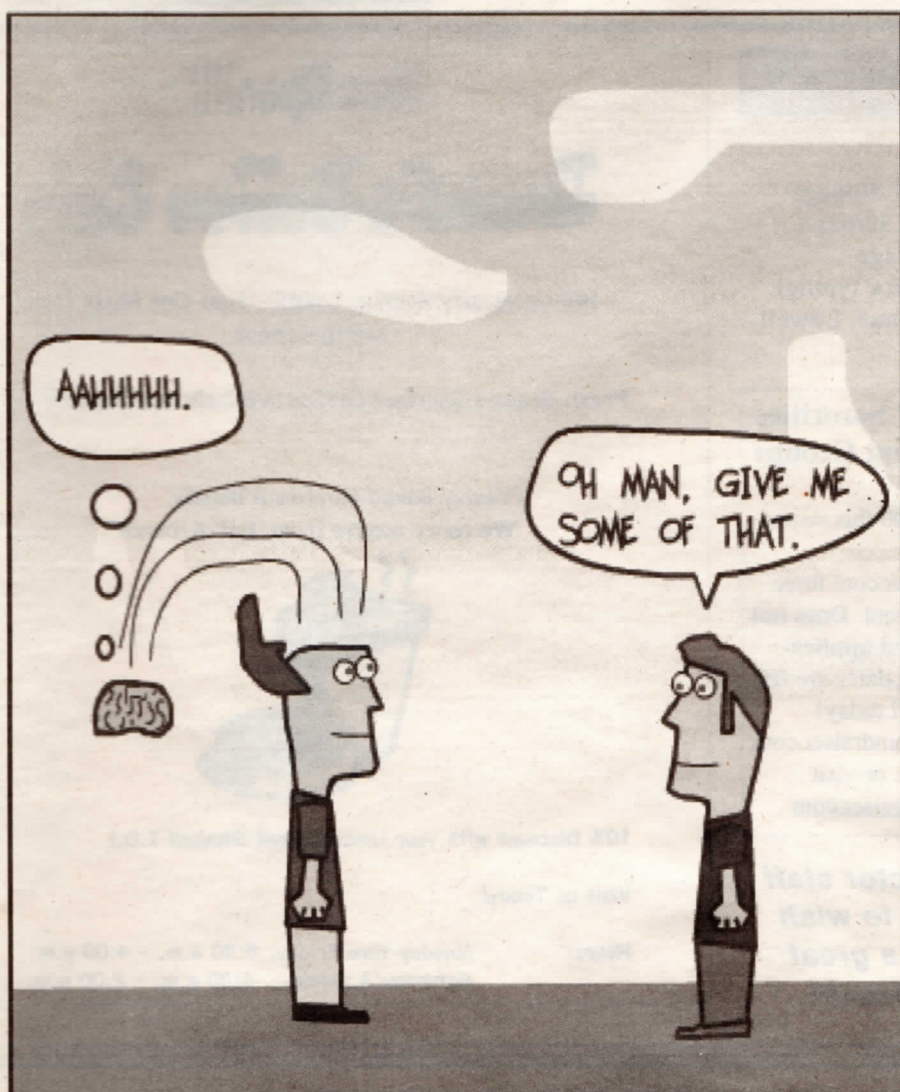
THE THIRD RAIL

By Bill Harrington



Just Plain Dumb

Dave Carlson



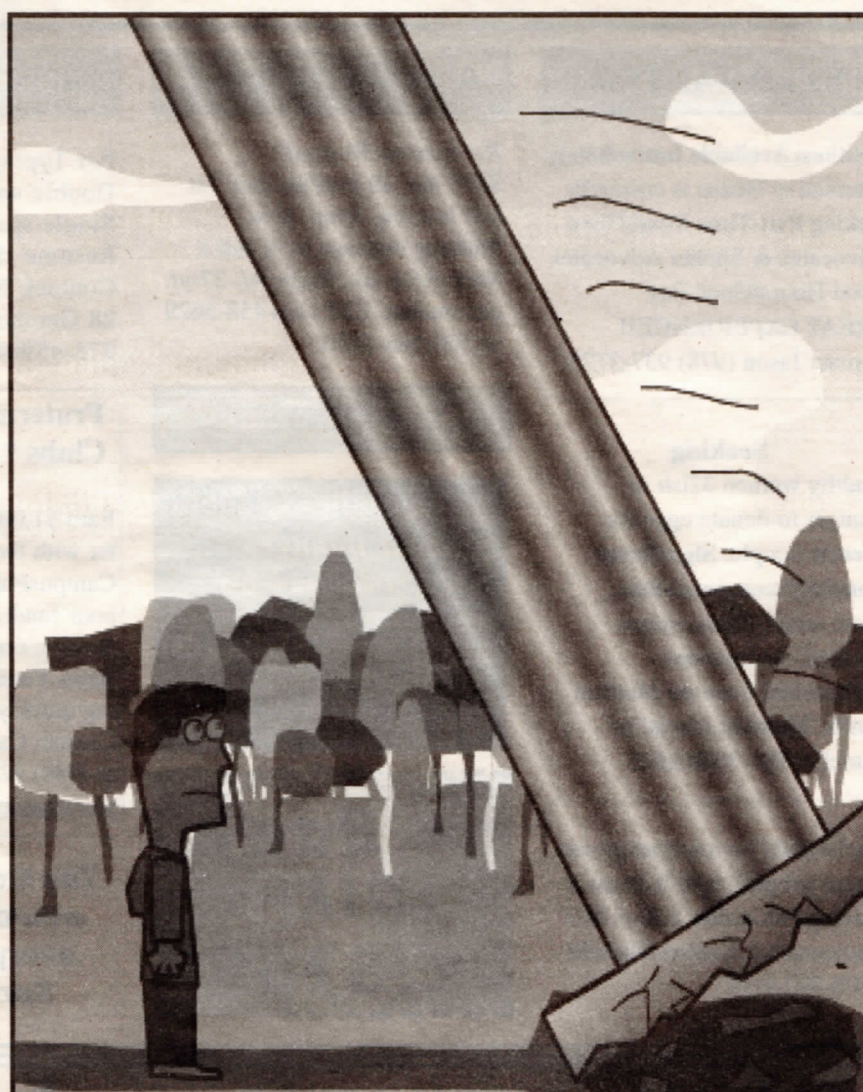
Mike's brain finally just gave up and jumped ship a few days before the last day of classes.

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Just Plain Dumb

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Milli Vanilli said to blame it on the rain, but for this forthcoming pain, Nate's gonna have to blame that gigantic stone pillar.

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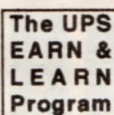
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A Farewell to the Seniors

UML MEN'S HOCKEY

by Rebekah Giordano
Connector Contributor

At the end of the season the UMass Lowell men's ice hockey team will graduate ten seniors. The loss will be just under half of the current team, leaving thirteen players as seasoned veterans.

The seniors, in alphabetical order are Josh Allison, Dan Fontas, Chris Gustafson, Kevin Kotyluk, Cam McCormick, Laurent Meunier, Jimi St. John, Tom Rouleau, R.J. Tolan, and Yorick Treille.

In addition to the ten is Ken Farrell, who graduated in December. With the current season being their best in the past four years that they have played, the men will leave UML with memories of a lifetime.

Defenseman Josh Allison (Blairsville, PA) will graduate

with a history degree. Over the past four years he has tallied 20 points and played in 125 games to date. "Playing at the Fleet Center last year was probably the most memorable moment playing for UMass Lowell," said Allison. "I've never played there before so it was just great." Post graduation plans are still in the works, but Allison aspires to return to school to become a chiropractor.

Recent graduate Ken Farrell is now living in Toronto after his departure in mid-January. After a recurring injury to his abdomen, Farrell decided to withdraw from the University since he had already earned his degree.

A transfer from Iona College, Farrell wanted a challenge and made the move to UML to play in a more competitive conference. In his three years at UML and freshman year at Iona College he assembled 31 points. Farrell is looking to continue his

education in news and radio broadcasting while residing in Toronto, Canada.

Massachusetts native Dan Fontas (Acton, MA) came to UMass Lowell to play hockey along side his older brother Mark. In addition, Fontas wanted to play in one of the most competitive conferences in the country.

The forward has compiled 55 points and played in 129 games to date. Earlier this season, Fontas scored the game-winning goal against Boston College at the Kelly Rink. "Upsetting UNH last year at their rink had to be a highlight of my career here (UML)," said Fontas. "We had a slow season, but came on strong at the end. To win there (UNH) felt good for the team." After graduating, Fontas is interested in playing in the minors divisions for a few years.

Co-captain Chris Gustafson (Elrose, Sask., Canada) helped lead the team to clinch home ice

for the playoffs this season.

The Canadian came to UMass Lowell for the atmosphere of the then new rink and team. The defenseman has played in all 34 games so far this year, totaling 138 to date and earned 32 points. As a junior he received the Gus Coutu Award, given to the player who illustrates the essence of UMass Lowell hockey. "I'm looking to play professional hockey after I graduate, hopefully in the US or Europe," said Gustafson.

Kevin Kotyluk (Golden, BC, Canada) will graduate from the College of Management with a degree in marketing. Kotyluk has participated in 96 games total, collecting 34 points. "Playing Minnesota-Duluth and scoring my first goal is what I remember the most," said Kotyluk. "The goalie was a past teammate of mine and it made the goal even more special."

In the game against Boston University (Feb. 15, 2002), Kotyluk scored the lone goal in the game, placing UML on the board. A dislocated shoulder combined with a couple strained muscle pulls, have placed Kotyluk on the disabled list and he should return within the next couple of weeks.

Hobey Baker candidate Cam McCormick (Kamloops, BC, Canada) has caught the eye of many while breaking the school record for most shutouts in a career (8), most shutouts in a single season (6), and most consecutive shutout minutes (209:25).

"The trips have to be my most favorable moments while playing at UMass Lowell," said McCormick. "Traveling to the other schools and just being with the guys is what I enjoyed the most." McCormick came to UML, along with his counterpart Jimi St. John, for the new environment of Tsongas Arena and for the opportunity of playing time ahead of him. "Control what you can, and don't try to control the uncontrollable," are the words Cam has learned to live by after playing at UML.

France National team member, Laurent Menuier (Echirolles, France), will leave UML after playing only two seasons. Meunier compiled 34 points last season while adding another 22 points in only 23 games this season.

Meunier traveled to Salt Lake City for the 2002 Winter Olympics and played for France in the preliminary games of the men's ice hockey competition. His first year playing, Menuier was named to the Hockey East All-Rookie Team and was named UML's Rookie of the Year by his teammates.

In April he will join his French teammates again in the World Hockey Championships.

Wisconsin native Tom Rouleau (Milwaukee, WI) will

graduate from UMass Lowell with a degree in Criminal Justice.

The assistant captain has gathered 63 points to date and played in 137 games including all of this season's matches. "My best experience was when we traveled to Denver for the Wells Fargo Cup back in December," said Rouleau. "The trip was just a great time." Rouleau hopes to continue his hockey career by playing post-graduation.

Goalie Jimi St. John (Windsor, Ont., Canada) has been in the shadow of Cam McCormick for the latter part of the season, but has emerged recently with a couple stellar performances in net. St. John's first shutout came on Feb. 24th, 2002 against Merrimack College.

"Being among the top five teams in the country this season is definitely a time that will stand out for me," said St. John. He has played in 60 games to date and posts .875 save percentage for this season. Wishing to play post-graduation, St. John hasn't made any decision because he is still concentrating on the current season.

R.J. Tolan (Waltham, MA) has played for UMass Lowell for four seasons. "Going to the Fleet Center for the Hockey East finals last season was the best," said Tolan. "Getting to play there is what makes hockey fun." Tolan has played in 57 games to date.

"Maybe in a few years I will get into coaching hockey for younger children." The Waltham, Massachusetts native will graduate with a political science degree after completing one more class over the summer.

The French forward Yorick Treille (Grenobles, France) came to UMass Lowell to be able to play in the Hockey East conference. "Just being able to play in this league has been a great experience for me," said Treille. "The pressure of playing the other skilled teams has added to my maturity of playing."

The co-captain is second among the River Hawks in points with 23, 15 of which are goals. In his four years at UMass Lowell, Treille has played in a total of 123 games. In addition to playing for Lowell, Treille is a member of the National Team of France.

He also participated in the 2002 Winter Olympics just last month and will join his team in April when they compete in the World Hockey Championships.

The ten seniors were honored on Friday, Mar. 1st at Senior Night before their final regular season game against Providence College.

The River Hawks go into the Hockey East semi-finals at the Fleet Center on Friday, Mar. 15 playing playing UNH at 4:00pm.

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Tuesday Mar. 12, 2002

River Hawks Heading to the Fleet



Photo by Erin Jansen

UML MEN'S HOCKEY

by Ryan Jansen
Connector Staff

Saturday night's nail biting dramatics at the Tsongas sealed the River Hawks eighth trip to the Hockey East Semifinals in 10 years. Once again in true form, the Hawks won a three-game playoff series with Northeastern.

On Thursday night Jimi St. John's 22 saves on 24 shots and 5 UML goals was the story of the game. Early in the first period Mark Concannon stole an NU clearing attempt, and enabled Lowell to continue cycling the puck in the NU zone. Anders Strome broke free and received the puck in the slot, ripping a slapshot, beating NU goalie Keni Gibson to give UML the lead 1-0.

After the first intermission the Huskies came out with a vengeance, which carried the play for most of the second peri-

od. At 18:18, 6 minutes after NU tied up the game, the French Connection struck; Yorick Treille netted a "laser" after receiving a drop pass from Laurent Meunier just inside the NU zone.

Lowell refused to allow the Huskies to gain the momentum. At 10:54 of the third, Strome once again found himself alone with the puck in the slot. This time Concannon set a pick and Strome backhanded the puck into the net for the game-winning goal.

Thirty-four seconds later Darryl Green received a drop pass from Geoff Schomogyi and put it over Gibson, who went down anticipating a low shot. With 15 seconds remaining, Ed McGrane added an empty net goal, for his twentieth goal of the season.

Friday night Northeastern scored two first period goals and never gave Lowell the chance to catch up, winning the game 4-2. Midway through the second trailing 2-1, NU scored the third

goal in what was deemed to be a "soft" goal, which in turn sent McCormick in to relieve St. John. Lowell lost the game 4-2 forcing a game 3. On the up side, Lowell's 2 goals cam on the power play. McGrane and Concannon netted the goals with assists coming from Peter Hay, Yorick Treille, Darryl Green and Chris Gustafson.

Saturday night the Hawks came out flying and dominated most of the game, but trailed 1-0 going into the first intermission. Just 19 seconds into the second, Yorick Treille threw the puck at the net and into the goal as it deflected in off of a skate. Laurent Meunier and Peter Hay were credited with the assists. Despite the low shot count, McCormick (22 saves) stayed sharp in net and made the necessary saves to win the game. The score stayed deadlocked into the third.

At 5:55 of the third, Baptiste Amar capitalized on Ed McGrane's face-off win by putting the game-winning goal into

the net through traffic. Baptiste's third goal of the season was also his third game-winning goal of the season. McGrane's assist was his thirty-sixth point of the season. After the game Amar commented that right after the goal he was not sure if McGrane tipped in the goal and went on to say, "I was happy either way. It doesn't matter who scores, it's a team goal."

The Huskies had the only power play of the third and were unable to convert. Lowell's strong penalty kill (84-of-99), 3 for 3 on the night, shined through again. Yorick Treille was able to burn about 20 seconds of the penalty in a corner of the NU end. It took 5 Huskies to strip the puck from Treille. Yorick also bewildered the power play on Thursday skating around them like it was no one's business.

Blaise MacDonald was proud of the night's penalty killing. He said, "We were really excited to get out there to kill that penalty. Your attitude is going to govern

how you react. We were like, 'Hey, we can get this thing done.'" Coach MacDonald also credited faith in the penalty kill to excellent goaltending and defense.

Cam McCormick said, "Jimi [St. John] and I owe a huge debt to the defense" and even mentioned taking them out to dinner down the stretch.

With less than 30 seconds left in the game Mark Concannon broke up a play in the UML end and broke out towards the empty NU net but was dragged down within feet of the goal line. Stephen Slonina was following the play and put the puck into the empty net for the final goal with 11.9 seconds left on the clock. Josh Allison was awarded the second assist.

Come show your support for the Hawks this Friday against UNH at the Fleet as they play to make it to the Hockey East Championship Game and improve their chances at an NCAA playoff berth.

River Hawks halted in 2nd round of Regionals

UML MEN'S BASKETBALL

by Sarah Ralls
Connector Staff

Men's basketball closed out their season this weekend in Old Westbury, NY losing Friday night in the second round of the NCAA Northeast Regionals 72-57 to Adelphi University.

Thursday night the Hawks disposed No. 5 Bentley in the Opening Round of the tournament 72-70.

The attack against Bentley was led by senior captain Eyal Leib who registered 20 points,

including six treys. Lowell trailed 29-25 at the half; UML's Northeast-10 First Teamer Elad Inbar led the scoring with 12 of his 20 points. Bentley's Jeff Bishop scored eight of his game-high 22 points in the first. At 7:48, Shah Nachmias netted a three, giving the River Hawks their largest lead, a six-point advantage at 23-17.

There were 16 lead changes in the second half and seven knots in the score until Elad landed a jumper with 1:35 to go and a 66-65 lead. Leib expanded the lead to 4 with an off-balance shot from behind the arc. UML shot 46 percent from the line (6-13),

and missed four from the charity stripe in the final 37 seconds.

Uri Grunwald finished with 13 points while Leib had 7 assists. UML outshot Bentley in the paint 32-20 and out rebounded the Falcons 36-23.

On Friday, Mar. 8, Lowell played their final post-season game against No. 1 Adelphi University, losing 72-57.

UML shot just 27 percent from the floor, while having a pair of scorers reaching double-digits in Elad Inbar with 15 and Uri Grunwald with 11. The Hawks had 5 turnovers in just 26 minutes of play. Grunwald was charged with two early

fouls and sat out most of the first half. The River Hawks out rebounded the Panthers during the first half by a margin of 24-14, but committed 12 of their 20 turnovers in the early phase.

Adelphi had four players in double-figures, including Wayne Nelson, with a game-high 21 points, as well as Eddie Williams with 20, while both Sherman Whittenburg and Thomas McCormack combined for 25. Rich Edwards held the defense together with eight blocks and five rebounds.

UML's James Whyte and Shahar Nachmias each had nine points while senior Eyal Leib

added seven to go with seven rebounds.

The River Hawks ended the season at 20-9 after finishing third in the NE-10 regular season. Leib became the first Israeli player in NCAA Division II basketball to reach the 1,000-point plateau, closing out his career with 1,153 career points.

Leib and fellow four-year veteran seniors Kingsley, Egbuchanam, and B.J. Romanoski set a new school record with 77 career wins.

First year coach, Ken Barer, also reached 20 wins in his rookie season at UMass Lowell.

Scores**Hockey**

UML 5 Northeastern 2
UML 2 Northeastern 4
UML 3 Northeastern 1

Men's Basketball

UML 72 Bentley 70
UML 57 Adelphi 72

Upcoming River Hawk Games**Hockey East Semifinals**

Fri. 3/15 UML vs. UNH 4:00pm
@ Fleetcenter

Coming after Spring Break

Men's Tennis

Sat. 3/16 UML vs. St. Michael's 1:00pm

Baseball & Softball

Sun. 3/17 UML Baseball vs. Eckerd
@ St. Petersburg, FL

Sun. 3/17 UML Softball vs. CW Post
@ Orlando, FL

Check updates at www.goriverhawks.com

